

## REMARKS

By the foregoing Preliminary Amendment, Claims 1, 2, 12, 19 and 30 have been amended.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "a first server including a first controller and at least one first computer connected in communication with said first controller, each said at least one first computer including at least one CPU; a second server including a second controller and at least one second computer connected in communication with said second controller, each said at least one second computer including at least one CPU," and "said first and second controllers being operative to maintain direct communication between the first and second controllers independent of said at least one first computer of said first server and said at least one second computer of said second server." Claim 19 similarly has been amended to recite "a first server including a first controller and at least one first computer connected in communication with said first controller, each said at least one first computer including at least one CPU; a second server including a second controller and at least one second computer connected in communication with said second controller, each said at least one second computer including at least one CPU," and "said first and second controllers being operative to maintain direct communication between the first and second controllers independent of said at least one first computer of said first server and said at least one second computer of said second server." Support for the amendments can be found in the specification at page 7, lines 6-18. It is respectfully submitted that none of the references cited teach,

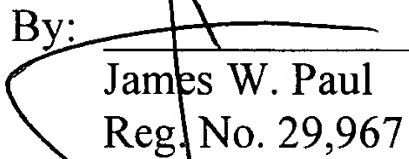
disclose or suggest a first server including a first controller and at least one first computer, a second server including a second controller and at least one second computer, and the first and second controllers maintaining direct communication between the first and second controllers independent of the at least one first computer of the first server and the at least one second computer of the second server, as is claimed.

Horst et al. was cited as disclosing a first "server" including a first controller and at least one CPU, and a second "server" including a second controller and at least one CPU, and the Examiner referred to Fig. 1A, items 12A and 14A, and items 12B and 14B, and the abstract of Horst et al. However, as is described in column 4, lines 38 et seq., Horst et al. discloses a processing system composed of multiple sub-processing systems in a single system. Elements 12A and 12B in Fig. 1A of Horst et al. are CPUs of the sub-processors 10A and 10B of the single data processing system 10, and elements 14A and 14B in Fig. 1A of Horst et al. are routers of the sub-processors 10A and 10B of the single data processing system 10. Horst et al. does not teach, disclose or suggest a first server including a first controller and at least one first computer, a second server including a second controller and at least one second computer, as is claimed.

In light of the foregoing amendments, favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By:   
James W. Paul  
Reg. No. 29,967

JWP/rvw

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Howard Hughes Center  
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90045  
Telephone: (310) 824-5555  
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696  
Customer No. 24201

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